



**REQUEST  
for  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.*

*See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).*

Application Number	10/020,308
Filing Date	December 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Masato YAMAMICHI et al.
Group Art Unit	Group Art Unit 2132
Examiner Name	Examiner Samson B. Lemma
Attorney Docket Number	2001_1845A
Confirmation No.	8418

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.*

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted:

- i. ☐ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other\_

b. ☒ Enclosed:

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other\_

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).

b. ☐ Other\_

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. .

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other\_

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1,810.00 is enclosed

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.  
**000513**

By: 

Jonathan R. Bowser  
Registration No. 54,574

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.  
2033 "K" Street, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Phone: (202) 721-8200  
Fax: (202) 721-8250

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